

Putting a Smile on God's Face

I am the Lord who exercise kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the Lord. Jeremiah 9:24

How do you picture God? Do you see him as a big, bearded, whit-haired man? Do you picture him in white robes? Do you imagine him to be tall?

What about his face? Is it wrinkled? Serious? Frowning? Smiling?

Actually, our pictures of God are likely to be different from someone else's picture of God because those pictures come from our imagination. None of us really knows what God looks like. In fact, he probably doesn't look like anything we have ever seen before.

But I can tell you this- certain things make God smile. Certain things make his face light up. Certain things make his expression brighten up like a kid unwrapping presents on Christmas morning.

Want to know what those things are? Do you really want to know what makes God happy? Three of them are mentioned in today's verse: kindness, justice, and righteousness. God says, "In these I delight" (Jeremiah 9:24 NIC). In other words, when God sees Kindness, he is delighted. When he sees you being kind to your little brother or sister, his face lights up like a candle. When he sees you comfort a crying baby, the expression on his face reflects delight.

Why? Because God values kindness. He delights in kindness. Kindness is one of his favorite things.

Of course, we knew that already, didn't we? Because God commands us to "always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else" 1 Thes. 5:15 And we know that God's commands reflect God's values. So the next time you have a chance to be kind, take it- and put a smile on God's face.

1. What is a delight to you? What is something you do that you think is a delight to God?
2. How do you think God feels when you are kind to someone?
3. Pray- God help me put a smile on someone's face today!